

Message Text

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43

ACTION PER-03

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R 231223Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 743

UNCLAS TEHRAN 2678

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER, IR

SUBJ: REGIONAL MINERALS ATTACHE

REF: STATE 033028

1. REPORTING ON IRANIAN MINERAL DEVELOPMENTS WILL BE A GROWING REQUIREMENT AS IRAN INCREASES THE PACE OF EXPLOITING ITS STILL LARGELY UNTAPPED NON-OIL MINERAL WEALTH. WITH RISING WORKLOADS IN ALL AREAS THE EMBASSY IS UNLIKELY TO HAVE THE STAFF OR TIME TO COVER THIS IMPORTANT FIELD FULLY. ACCORDINGLY, THE ASSIGNMENT OF REGIONAL MINERALS ATTACHE TO TEHRAN COULD BE EXPECTED TO BE USEFUL. WE WONDER HOWEVER WHETHER MINERAL RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER NEA COUNTRIES MIGHT MAKE IT DESIRABLE THAT HE BE LOCATED ELSEWHERE. IN THIS CONNECTION WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE STATUS OF THE MINERALS ATTACHE POSITION IN NEW DELHI. HAS IT BEEN ABOLISHED AND IF NOT, COULD ITS RESPONSIBILITIES BE ENLARGED TO COVER THE AREA PROPOSED REFTTEL?

2. ON THE NON-SUBSTANTIVE BUT NONETHELESS VERY PRACTICAL SIDE OF THE MATTER, THIS EMBASSY NO LONGER HAS SPACE TO ACCOMMODATE ADDITIONAL OFFICES, AT LEAST UNTIL LONG PLANNED FBO ADDITIONS ARE COMPLETED. ACCORDINGLY, ASSIGNMENT OF A MINERAL ATTACHE HERE WOULD REQUIRE LEASING OF OFFICE SPACE IN A SEPARATE BUILDING, A COURSE WE ARE EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO PURSUE ON THE GROUNDS OF EXTREMELY HIGH COSTS AS WELL AS POOR MANAGEMENT.

3. APPRECIATE CONSIDERATION OF FOREGOING AND FURTHER DEPARMENT
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VIEWS BEFORE REACHING FIRM DECISION ON LOCATION AND TIMING OF

ASSIGNMENT OF A REGIONAL MINERALS ATTACHE.
HELMS

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NNN

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